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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, DECEMBER 12, 2000

APPLICATION OF

SIGMA NETWORKS TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
OF VIRGINIA, INC.

CASE NO. PUC000183

For certificates of public  
convenience and necessity to  
provide local exchange and  
interexchange telecommunications  
services

FINAL ORDER

On July 26, 2000, Sigma Networks Telecommunications of Virginia, Inc. ("Sigma" or "Applicant"), completed an application for certificates of public convenience and necessity ("certificates") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") to provide local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Applicant also requested authority to price its interexchange telecommunications services on a competitive basis pursuant to § 56-481.1 of the Code of Virginia.

By Order dated August 25, 2000, the Commission directed the Applicant to provide notice to the public of its application, directed the Commission Staff to conduct an investigation and file a Staff Report, and scheduled a public hearing to receive evidence relevant to Sigma's application. On November 8, 2000,

the Staff filed its report finding that Sigma's application was in compliance with 20 VAC 5-400-180, the Rules for Local Exchange Telephone Competition ("Local Rules"), and 20 VAC 5-400-60, the Rules Governing the Certification of Interexchange Carriers ("IXC Rules"). Based upon its review of Sigma's application and unaudited financial statements, the Staff determined it would be appropriate to grant both local exchange and interexchange certificates to the Applicant subject to three conditions: (1) any customer deposits collected by Sigma be retained in an unaffiliated third-party escrow account until such time as the Staff or Commission determines it is no longer necessary; (2) Sigma shall provide audited financial statements of its parent, Sigma Networks, Inc., to the Staff of the Division of Economics and Finance no later than one (1) year from the effective date of Sigma's initial tariff; and (3) once voice services are provided, the Company shall comply with all requirements of § C of the Local Rules.

A hearing was conducted on November 21, 2000. At the hearing, the application and accompanying attachments and the Staff Report were entered into the record without objection. No public witnesses appeared at the November 21, 2000, hearing. Sigma agreed to the conditions contained in the Staff Report.

NOW UPON CONSIDERATION of the application and the Staff Report, the Commission finds that Sigma's application should be

granted. Having considered § 56-481.1 of the Code of Virginia, the Commission also finds that Sigma may price its interexchange telecommunications services competitively.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) Sigma Networks Telecommunications of Virginia, Inc., is hereby granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity, No. TT-117A, to provide interexchange telecommunications services subject to the restrictions set forth in the IXC Rules, § 56-265.4:4 of the Code of Virginia, and the provisions of this Order.

(2) Sigma Networks Telecommunications of Virginia, Inc., is hereby granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity, No. T-521, to provide local exchange telecommunications services subject to the restrictions set forth in the Local Rules and § 56-265.4:4 of the Code of Virginia.

(3) Pursuant to § 56-481.1 of the Code of Virginia, Sigma may price its interexchange telecommunications services competitively.

(4) Sigma shall provide tariffs to the Division of Communications that conform to all applicable Commission rules and regulations.

(5) Should Sigma collect customer deposits, it shall establish and maintain an escrow account, held by an

unaffiliated third party, to hold such funds and shall notify the Division of Economics and Finance of the escrow arrangement. Any escrow arrangement established pursuant to this Order shall be maintained for such time as the Staff or Commission determines is necessary.

(6) Sigma shall provide audited financial statements of its parent, Sigma Networks, Inc., to the Division of Economics and Finance no later than one (1) year from the effective date of Sigma's initial tariff.

(7) At such time as voice services are initiated by Sigma, the Company shall provide/comply with all requirements of § C (Conditions for Certification) of the Local Rules

(8) There being nothing further to come before the Commission, this case shall be dismissed and the papers herein placed in the file for ended causes.